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Application, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box  
1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-14550.

  
Kelly M. Johnson

**PATENT**

**Case No. 2171-42956**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of )  
Thomas C. Frampton ) Group Art Unit:  
Serial No.: ) Examiner:  
Filed: October 24, 2003 )  
For: BALL AND SOCKET ASSEMBLY FOR )  
SUSPENDING AN OBJECT FROM A SLOPED )  
SURFACE )

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Mail Stop Patent Application  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

To Whom It May Concern:

Applicant hereby submits an Information Disclosure Statement pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.97. The references listed on the attached Form PTO/SB/08A are being submitted pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.97 for consideration by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office.

ELIGIBILITY FOR CONSIDERATION AND DISCLAIMERS

Inasmuch as Applicant has not received a first Office Action and, that to Applicant's knowledge, a first Office Action has not been mailed, Applicant respectfully submits that, in accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.97(b), the present Information Disclosure Statement is eligible for consideration without Certification, Petition, or payment of any fee.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.97(g), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed as a representation that a search has been made.

Further, in accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.97(h), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed to be an admission that the information cited in this statement is, or is considered to be, material to the patentability of this invention as defined in 37 C.F.R. 1.56(b).

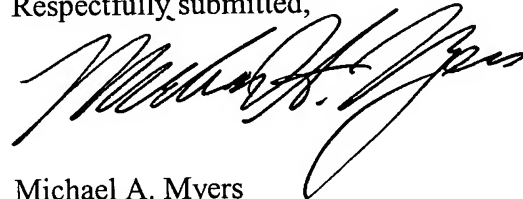
No significance is meant to be attached to any markings on the document(s) accompanying this Information Disclosure Statement. The accompanying document(s) are not necessarily analogous art.

CONCLUSION

It is believed that none of these references, alone or in combination, disclose or suggest the claimed invention. Applicant, therefore, requests that the Examiner review the entire disclosure of each reference and make the listed references of record in this case.

Early and favorable action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



Michael A. Myers  
Attorney Reg. No.38,693

MAM/kmj  
2171-42956#821503

Enclosures: Form PTO/SB/08A (w/references)

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Substitute for form 1449/PTO

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 1 of 1

**Complete if Known**

Application Number	Not Yet Assigned
Filing Date	October 24, 2003
First Named Inventor	Thomas C. Frampton
Art Unit	Not Yet Assigned
Examiner Name	Not Yet Assigned
Attorney Docket Number	2171-42956

**U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)			
		US- 6,203,279 B1	03/20/2001	Moody et al.	
		US- 2,815,918	12/10/1957	I. Wolar	
		US- 4,754,947	07/05/1988	Propp	
		US- 5,090,654	02/25/1992	Ridings et al.	
		US- 5,725,190	03/10/1998	Cuthbertson et al.	
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**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sup>6</sup>
		Country Code <sup>3</sup> Number <sup>4</sup> Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)				

Examiner  
SignatureDate  
Considered

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. <sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND

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